News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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DoD Biometrics Fusion Center Assumes New Leadership

WASHINGTON, D.C., December 12, 2003 – The U.S. Army Chief Information Office (CIO-G/6) announced today that Samuel J. Cava has been appointed Director of the Department of Defense Biometrics Fusion Center (BFC) in Bridgeport, W.Va. As Director, Mr. Cava will be responsible for enhancing the Center's test & evaluation capabilities and establishing stronger ties with other Department of Defense organizations and Federal Agencies.

"The Biometrics Fusion Center is taking a leadership role in solidifying West Virginia's claim as the nation's premier center for biometric technology," said Vernon Bettencourt, Deputy CIO-G/6. "Sam will be instrumental in guiding the successful implementation of biometrics to support mission-critical warfighter applications, and working with the Department of Homeland Security, State Department, and other Agencies on collective U.S. Government goals for biometrics."

Mr. Cava comes to the BFC from West Virginia University, where he was the Director of Forensic and Biometric Development. Prior to this position, he served on active duty with the U.S. Air Force, working in several intelligence-related assignments. Mr. Cava holds a bachelor of science in electrical engineering from West Virginia University. The son of Mr. and Mrs. James J. Cava of Clarksburg, he resides with his wife and two children outside of Morgantown.

Mr. Cava fills a senior-level civil service (GS-15) position, as part of the Department of Defense plan to continue migrating core functions to the Biometrics Fusion Center.

The BFC is the test and evaluation facility for the DoD Biometrics Management Office (BMO). The BMO is the central entity within the DoD responsible for leading, consolidating, and coordinating the development, adoption, and institutionalization of biometric technologies for combatant commanders, Services and Agencies, to enhance Joint Service interoperability and warfighter effectiveness.

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